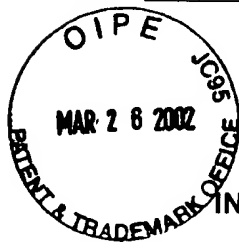


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the US Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date shown below.

Date: March 13, 2002

By:

Carol A. See
Carol A. See



PATENT
Docket No. GC626-2D1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of)	
)	
Borneman et al.)	Group Art Unit: 1652
)	
Serial No.: 09/981,430)	Examiner: Unassigned
)	
Filed: October 15, 2001)	
)	
For: Esterase Enzymes, DNA Encoding)	
Esterase Enzymes and Vectors and)	
Host Cells Incorporating Same)	

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Notice to File Corrected Application Papers dated January 18, 2002, please amend the above-referenced application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 3, please replace the paragraph starting on line 9 with the following clean copy of the paragraph:

B¹ The present invention provides for a purified 38kD esterase which is derived from *Aspergillus niger*. Further, a DNA sequence coding for the 38kD esterase comprising a DNA as shown in Figs. 4A-4E (SEQ. ID NO: 27); a DNA which encodes the amino acid sequence also shown in Figs. 4A-4E (SEQ. ID NO: 28); a DNA which encodes an esterase which comprises an amino acid segment which differs from the sequence in Figs. 4A-4E, provided that the DNA encodes a derivative of the 38kD esterase specifically described herein; and a DNA which encodes an esterase that